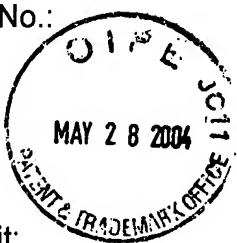


IPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Applicant(s): Rossi et al.  
Serial No.: 10/782,544  
Filed: February 19, 2004  
For: CUSHIONED FASTENER  
Art Unit: 3677  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No.: 3243  
Customer No.: 27623



Attorney Docket No.: 486.0043USU

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

We are enclosing:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449;
3. Transmittal letter in duplicate; and
4. Postcard.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any such fees, if necessary to Deposit Account No. 01-0467 in the name of Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles N.J. Ruggiero".

Date: May 26, 2004

Charles N.J. Ruggiero  
Reg. No. 28,468  
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.  
One Landmark Square, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Stamford, Connecticut 06901-2682  
(203) 327-4500

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, , ON May 26, 2004.

Michelle Pagliarulo  
NAME

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Pagliarulo".

SIGNATURE

5/26/04  
DATE

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Rossi et al.  
Serial No.: 10/782,544  
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Attorney Docket No.: 486.0043USU

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, we are enclosing form PTO-1449 listing information that may be material to the patentability of this application.

Cited in the attached PTO-1449 are U.S. Patent Nos. 2,180,390, 2,593,711, 2,802,215, 2,861,276, 3,779,250, 4,314,569, 4,325,378, 5,098,331, 5,152,741, 6,099,382, 6,135,975, 6,253,424, 6,309,489, 6,321,388, 6,443,804, 6,464,717, 6,513, 209 and 2002/0068506.

Pursuant to the waiving of the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of these U.S. references are not enclosed.

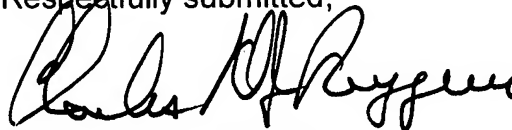
It is applicants' belief that none of the above citations describe that which is claimed in the present invention.

It should be understood that attention has been called to the citations that have been deemed to be pertinent to the claimed present invention. In concluding what was pertinent, the criteria employed was considered most appropriate in light of the invention shown in the present application. However, the Examiner or others may deem some other criteria to be just as appropriate or more appropriate. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully urged to review the listed citations and to make the usual careful independent search for other prior art that may be pertinent.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the issuance of the first Office Action based on the merits, no petition or fee is required.

Applicants' respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles N.J. Ruggiero  
Reg. No. 28,468  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.  
One Landmark Square, 10th Floor  
Stamford, CT 06901-2682  
(203) 327-4500

Date: May 26, 2004

CUSTOMER NO.: 27623

Sheet 1 of 2

FORM PTO-1449

Docket Number (Optional)

486.0043USU

Application Number

10/782,544

Applicant

Rossi et al.

Filing Date

February 19, 2004

Group Art Unit

3677

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2,180,390	11/21/39	Blair	2	31	
	2,593,711	4/22/52	Weatherly	2	42	
	2,802,215	8/13/57	Alfandre	2	265	
	2,861,276	11/25/58	Alfandre	2	265	
	3,779,250	12/18/73	Radomski	128	489	
	4,314,569	2/9/82	Speno	125	425	
	4,325,378	4/20/82	Wilkinson	128	501	
	5,098,331	3/24/92	Corrado	450	58	
	5,152,741	10/6/92	Farnio	602	79	
	6,099,382	8/8/00	Wilson	450	89	
	6,135,975	10/24/00	Johnstone	602	79	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

CUSTOMER NO.: 27623

Sheet 2 of 2

FORM PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional)	Application Number
	486.0043USU	10/782,544
	Applicant	
	Rossi et al.	
	Filing Date	Group Art Unit
	February 19, 2004	3677

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,253,424	7/3/01	Rainville-Lonn	24	306	
	6,309,489	10/30/01	Fildan et al.	156	73.3	
	6,321,388	11/27/01	Hildebrandt	2	69	
	6,443,804	9/3/02	Grunwald	450	28	
	6,464,717	10/15/02	Smith et al.	607	108	
	6,513,209	2/4/03	Portzline	24	701	
	2002/0068506	6/6/02	Devita et al.	450	1	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.